

Niger desert locust update August, 2005

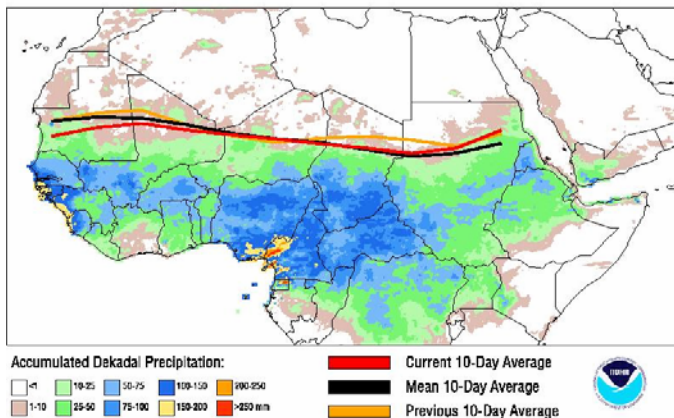
Summary

Despite favorable ecological conditions, the desert locust situation in Niger remained calm in areas surveyed during the reporting month. Only isolated solitary adults were sighted in a few places. Survey operations will continue through October in areas where favorable ecological conditions persist. Grasshoppers and quelea were reported in Diffa, Zinder and Maradi and quelea birds were also seen in Tilabéri and Tahoua.

Meteorological and Ecological conditions

As a result of wide spread rainfall, favorable ecological conditions persisted in many places in west Air, Trhazer and Tamesna and the pastoral zone beyond the 15th parallel.

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ
As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center
August 2005 Dekad 3



Locust situation

The locust situation remained calm in all surveyed areas. Only, isolated individual adult locusts were observed south of Air in Tiguidit (16°37' 49 N 008°06'09E), Tadress, south Tagdoufat (15°50'05N 008°36'28E) and in Solomi (17°31'21N 007°45'12E), towards west Air. The situation in the northern zone in Maradi, Zinder and Tilabéri (pastoral areas) remained calm. Control operation was not required during the reporting month and areas

treated since the beginning of the summer operations remained unchanged over the past dekads, i.e. 1,471 ha.

Forecast

Small-scale breeding is likely in areas where mature adults were observed. Aerial survey will continue through the second dekad of September and ground survey operations will persist till end of October in areas where ecological conditions are favorable, including the Air and Tamesna as well as in parts of Diffa, Zinder, Tahoua, Maradi and Tillabéri.

Pesticide stocks

Niger has more than 200,538 liters of ULV pesticides for locust operations. This is more than enough to treat the worst case scenario.

Note on neighboring countries

Very few isolated solitary adult locusts were reported in northern **Mali** and south-central and southern **Mauritania** during the reporting period. Senegal and Burkina Faso remained free of DL.

News Update

A redesigned AELGA webpage, www.aelga.net is now available to the public. It provides information on our activities and programs and includes regular reports on DL and other ETOP related activities and many more. For further information, please, contact Yene T. Belayneh, at ybelayneh@ofda.net

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